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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Andrew John Stentz  
 Application No.: 09/925,838  
 Date Filed: 08/08/01  
 Title: OPTICAL AMPLIFIER HAVING AUTOMATIC GAIN CONTROL WITH IMPROVED PERFORMANCE

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

Mail Stop DD  
 Commissioner for Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98, the references listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 and/or subsequently identified herein, are being submitted herewith for consideration by the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

## I. COPIES

- a.  A legible copy of (i) each U.S. and foreign patents; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and (iii) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed, is included herewith.
- b.  Any patents, publications or other information which are listed on PTO/SB/08 which are not enclosed herewith were previously cited by or submitted to the PTO in one of the following applications which has been relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120:

<u>U.S. Serial Number</u>	<u>U.S. Filing Date</u>
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## II. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE (check at least one box)

- a.  Except as may be indicated below in (b) of this section, all of the patents, publications or other information are in the English language (concise explanation not required).
- b.  A concise explanation of the relevance of all patents, publications or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows:
- c.  The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration:

III.  CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION(S)

The Examiner is advised that the following co-pending application(s) contain(s) subject matter that may be related to the present application. By bringing this (these) applications to the Examiner's attention, Applicant(s) does(do) not waive the confidentiality provisions of 35 U.S.C. §122.

<u>Serial No.</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Art Unit</u>
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FEESIV.  THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b): (check one box)

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- a.  within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d) (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(1)). No fee or statement is required.
- b.  within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(2)). No fee or statement is required.
- c.  before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3)). No fee or statement is required.
- d.  before the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114 (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(4)). No fee or statement is required.

- V.  **THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c):** (check one box)  
before the mailing date of any of a Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (See 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)).
- a.  No statement; therefore, charge deposit account 50-1047 the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).
  - b.  See the statement below. No fee is required.

VI.  **THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d):**

on or before payment of the issue fee and is accompanied by the following:

- 1)  a statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) as provided below; and
- 2)  charge deposit account 50-1047 the petition fee set forth in §1.17(p).

VII.  **STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)** (check only one box, if applicable)

The undersigned hereby states that

- a.  Each item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of IDS; or
- b.  No item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application, and to knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement, or
- c.  Some of the items of information contained in the IDS were cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office. As to this information, the undersigned states that each item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. As to the remaining information, the undersigned hereby states that no item of this remaining information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

VIII. **PAYMENT OF FEES**

- A check in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed for the above-identified fee(s).
- Please charge Deposit Account No. 50-1047 in the amount of \$180.00 for the above-indicated fee(s).
- If Applicant has overlooked any additional fees, or if any overpayment has been made, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit or debit Deposit Account 50-1047.
- Two Copies of this paper are attached for Deposit Account charges and debits.

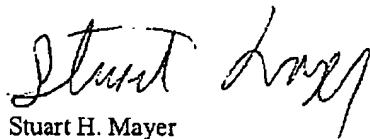
It is Applicant(s)' opinion that the claims presently on file patently distinguish the present invention from each of these references. The above references are being cited only in the interests of candor and without any admission that they constitute statutory prior art or contain matter which anticipates

Docket: Ph01-01-02

the invention or which would render the same obvious, either singly or in a combination, to a person of ordinary skill in the art.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this IDS, he/she is requested to contact the undersigned. If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule (with a petition if necessary) and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 50-1047.

Respectfully submitted,



Stuart H. Mayer  
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MAYER FORTKORT & WILLIAMS  
Customer Number 27774

Enclosures:  PTO/SB/08  
 References  
 Foreign Search Report  
 Other:

Certificate of Mailing by First Class Mail

I certify that this document and fee is being deposited

*7/30/03* with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail

under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to Mail Stop DD, Commissioner for Patents,  
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

*Marjorie Scariati*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence

*Marjorie Scariati*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Certificate